

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01315 071706Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3763

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1315

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GE, GW

SUBJ: MORE ON FEA-STATUS REPORT AUGUST 7

REF: BERLIN 1308

1. SUMMARY: SOME UNEXPLAINED PROCESSING DELAYS, BUT NO NEW HARASSMENT INCIDENTS DIRECTLY RELATED TO FEA REPORTED ON TRANSIT ROUTES AUGUST 6. SENAT OFFICIAL VIEWED TRANSIT COMMISSION MEETING IN EAST BERLIN AS DEMONSTRATING SOVIET AND GDR INTEREST IN NOT ESCALATING SITUATION. GDR HAS AGAIN STEPPED UP MEDIA CONDEMNATION OF FRG ON FEA ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF FEA RELATED HARASSMENT INCIDENTS
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01315 071706Z

ON TRANSIT ROUTES AUGUST 6. HOWEVER, SOME DELAYS IN

PROCESSING TRAVELLERS AND TRUCKS AT MARIENBORN AND DREWITZ WERE REPORTED. PETER HERZ, DIRECTOR OF SENAT CHANCELLERY, ATTEMPTED TO PUT BEST FACE ON AUGUST 6 TRANSIT COMMISSION MEETING BY SAYING HE THOUGHT IT DEMONSTRATED THAT SOVIETS AND GDR WERE NOT INTERESTED IN ESCALATING CRISIS.

3. AFTER GIVING ISSUE REDUCED COVERAGE ON AUGUST 5 (REFTEL), NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, AUGUST 6 RETURNED TO FEA FRAY WITH A VENGEANCE. EXPANDED ND COVERAGE CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF HARDLINE COMMENTARIES EXCERPTED FROM CZECH AND MONGOLIAN PRESS: WESTERN EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION CRITICAL OF FRG ACTION CITED AS WELL. EXTRACT FROM CURRENT SPIEGEL STATED THAT BONN WOULD NOW HAVE TO SUFFER CONSEQUENCES OF UNWISE DECISION "PREGNANT WITH CONFLICT." GUARDIAN'S NORMAN CROSLAND, SPEAKING ON WEST GERMAN RADIO, CRITICIZED FRG FOR ATTEMPTING TO EXPAND ITS PRESENCE IN WEST BERLIN IN ROUNDABOUT FASHION, NOTWITHSTANDING "RATHER WEAK" WESTERN LEGAL POSITION. ADN ITEM DEALING WITH MEETING OF TRANSIT COMMISSION REPORTED GDR DELEGATION AS HAVING DEMANDED CONCRETE FRG MEASURES TO HALF REPEATED MISUSE OF TRANSIT ROUTES BY EXFILTRATION ORGANIZATIONS. GDR DELEGATION ALSO SAID TO HAVE REJECTED AS UNFOUNDED WEST GERMAN ASSERTIONS OF "ALLEGED" IMPEDIMENTS TO TRANSIT TRAVEL AND ACCOUNT EXPLICITLY DEFENDED BARRING OF FEA EMPLOYEES AND PROPERTY, ON GROUNDS AUTHORITY ESTABLISHED IN CONTRAVENTION OF PRIMARY STIPULATION OF QA-- NAMELY, THAT WEST BERLIN DOES NOT BELONG TO FRG.KLEIN

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